

I am strongly against the Broadcast Flag Mandate. I see it as another form of Digital Restriction Management (often known by the euphemism of Digital Rights Management, or DRM). The purpose of DRM is to restrict the rights of the public to use flexible information technology for the benefit of a few (albeit very powerful) industry groups.

While I agree that illegal copying is a large problem, broad over-reaching mandates such as the Broadcast Flag Mandate in actuality do little to stop this illegal copying and it limits the public's ability to use technology in legitimate, non-infringing ways. Even if this mandate could be worded and somehow enforced to stop the illegal internet copying going on, it still should not pass because of the fair-use rights of citizens that would be stripped. Not to mention the extra fees that would be footed by the consumer...

The mandate of the FCC is to provide proper management of the airwaves as a public trust. To that end the FCC needs to act on behalf of the majority of the American public, and not on behalf of industry groups.